

1 AN ACT relating to Kentucky educational excellence scholarships.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 164.7884 is amended to read as follows:

4 (1) As used in this section:

5 (a) "Academic year" means July 1 through June 30 of each year;

6 (b) "Apprentice" has the same meaning as in KRS 343.010;

7 (c) "Eligible student" means an eligible high school student who has graduated  
8 from high school or a student eligible under KRS 164.7879(3)(e);

9 **(d) "Proprietary school" means a school that:**

10 **1. Is licensed by the Kentucky Commission on Proprietary Education;**

11 **2. Has operated for at least five (5) years;**

12 **3. Has its headquarters or main campus physically located in Kentucky;**

13 **and**

14 **4. Does not qualify as a participating institution under KRS**  
15 **164.7874(20);**

16 **(e) "Qualified proprietary school program" means a program offered by a**  
17 **proprietary school that is in the field of agriculture as defined in KRS**  
18 **246.010 or is in one (1) of Kentucky's top five (5) high-demand work sectors**  
19 **as determined by the Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board;**

20 ~~(f)(d)~~ "Qualified workforce training program" means a program that is in one  
21 (1) of Kentucky's top five (5) high-demand work sectors as determined by the  
22 Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board;

23 ~~(g)(e)~~ "Registered apprenticeship program" means an apprenticeship program  
24 that:

25 1. Is established in accordance with the requirements of KRS Chapter 343;

26 2. Requires a minimum of two thousand (2,000) hours of on-the-job work  
27 experience;

- 1           3. Requires a minimum of one hundred forty-four (144) hours of related  
2           instruction for each year of the apprenticeship; and
- 3           4. Is approved by the Education and Labor Cabinet;
- 4           ~~(h)~~~~(f)~~ "Related instruction" has the same meaning as in KRS 343.010; and
- 5           ~~(i)~~~~(g)~~ "Sponsor" has the same meaning as in KRS 343.010.
- 6       (2) Notwithstanding KRS 164.7881, an eligible student who earned a KEES award  
7       shall be eligible for a Kentucky educational excellence scholarship if the student  
8       meets the requirements of this section and is:
- 9           (a) An apprentice in a registered apprenticeship program;~~or~~
- 10          (b) Enrolled in a qualified workforce training program that has a current  
11          articulation agreement for postsecondary credit hours with a participating  
12          institution; or
- 13          ~~(c)~~ Enrolled in a qualified proprietary school program.
- 14       (3) (a) Beginning with the 2018-2019 academic year, an eligible student enrolled in a  
15       registered apprenticeship program or, for the academic year beginning July 1,  
16       2020, an eligible student enrolled in a qualified workforce training program  
17       or, for the academic year beginning July 1, 2023, an eligible student  
18       enrolled in a qualified proprietary school program may receive  
19       reimbursement of tuition, books, required tools, and other approved expenses  
20       required for participation in the program, upon certification by the sponsor or  
21       school and approval by the authority.
- 22          (b) The reimbursement amount an eligible student may receive in an academic  
23          year shall not exceed the student's KEES award maximum.
- 24          (c) The total reimbursement amount an eligible student may receive under this  
25          section shall not exceed the student's KEES award maximum multiplied by  
26          four (4).
- 27       (4) Eligibility for a KEES scholarship under this section shall terminate upon the earlier

1 of:

2 (a) The expiration of five (5) years following the eligible student's graduation  
3 from high school or receiving a High School Equivalency Diploma, except as  
4 provided in KRS 164.7881(5); or

5 (b) The eligible student's successful completion of the registered apprenticeship  
6 program, ~~for~~ qualified workforce training program, or qualified proprietary  
7 school program.

8 (5) The authority shall promulgate administrative regulations establishing the  
9 procedures for making awards under this section in consultation with the Kentucky  
10 Education and Labor Cabinet and the Kentucky Economic Development Cabinet.

11 ➔Section 2. KRS 164.7879 is amended to read as follows:

12 (1) Kentucky educational excellence scholarship awards shall be based upon an  
13 established base scholarship amount and an eligible high school student's grade  
14 point average. The base scholarship amount for students attaining a grade point  
15 average of at least 2.5 for the 1998-1999 academic year shall be as follows:

16	GPA	Amount	GPA	Amount
17	2.50	\$125.00	3.30	\$325.00
18	2.60	\$150.00	3.40	\$350.00
19	2.70	\$175.00	3.50	\$375.00
20	2.75	\$187.00	3.60	\$400.00
21	2.80	\$200.00	3.70	\$425.00
22	2.90	\$225.00	3.75	\$437.00
23	3.00	\$250.00	3.80	\$450.00
24	3.10	\$275.00	3.90	\$475.00
25	3.20	\$300.00	4.00	\$500.00
26	3.25	\$312.00		

27 The authority shall review the base amount of the Kentucky educational excellence

1 scholarship each academic year and may promulgate an administrative regulation to  
2 make adjustments after considering the availability of funds.

3 (2) (a) The authority shall commit to provide to each eligible high school student the  
4 base amount of the Kentucky educational excellence scholarship for each  
5 academic year of high school study in the Kentucky educational excellence  
6 scholarship curriculum that the high school student has attained at least a 2.5  
7 grade point average. The award shall be based upon the eligible high school  
8 student's grade point average at the close of each academic year. An award  
9 attributable to a past academic year shall not be increased after the award has  
10 been earned by an eligible high school student, regardless of any subsequent  
11 increases made to the base amount of the Kentucky educational excellence  
12 scholarship through the promulgation of an administrative regulation by the  
13 authority.

14 (b) Notwithstanding the definitions of "eligible high school student" and "high  
15 school" in KRS 164.7874, any high school student who maintains Kentucky  
16 residency and completes the academic courses that are required for a  
17 Kentucky educational excellence scholarship while participating in an  
18 approved educational high school foreign exchange program or participating  
19 in the United States Congressional Page School may apply his or her grade  
20 point average for that academic year toward the base as described in  
21 paragraph (a) of this subsection. The grade point average shall be reported by  
22 the student's Kentucky home high school, based on an official transcript from  
23 the school that the student attended during the out-of-state educational  
24 experience. The authority shall promulgate administrative regulations that  
25 describe the approval process for the educational exchange programs that  
26 qualify under this paragraph. The provisions in this paragraph shall likewise  
27 apply to any Kentucky high school student who participated in an approved

1 educational exchange program or in a Congressional Page School since the  
2 1998-99 school year and maintained his or her Kentucky residency  
3 throughout.

4 (c) 1. Notwithstanding the definitions of "eligible high school student" and  
5 "high school" in KRS 164.7874 and the requirement that a student  
6 graduate from a Kentucky high school, a high school student who  
7 completes the KEES curriculum while attending an accredited out-of-  
8 state high school or Department of Defense school may apply the grade  
9 point average for any applicable academic year toward the base as  
10 described in paragraph (a) of this subsection and shall also qualify for a  
11 supplemental award under subsection (3) of this section when:

12 a. His or her custodial parent or guardian is in active service of the  
13 Armed Forces of the United States;~~and~~

14 b. ~~The custodial parent or guardian maintained Kentucky as the~~  
15 ~~home of record at the time the~~ student attended an accredited out-  
16 of-state high school or a Department of Defense school **as a result**  
17 **of the custodial parent's or guardian's military transfer outside**  
18 **of Kentucky; and**

19 **c. The student earned a KEES base amount at a Kentucky high**  
20 **school prior to the custodial parent's or guardian's military**  
21 **transfer outside of Kentucky.**

22 2. The student or parent shall arrange for the out-of-state school to report  
23 the student's grade point average each academic year and the student's  
24 highest ACT score to the authority as required under KRS 164.7885.  
25 The authority shall promulgate administrative regulations implementing  
26 the requirements in this paragraph, including:

27 a. The documentation that the parent shall submit to the authority

1 establishing the student's eligibility for the scholarship; and

2 b. The assurances that an out- of state institution shall submit to the  
3 authority for submission of the student grade point average.

4 3. The provisions in this paragraph shall apply to the 2001-2002 school  
5 year and thereafter.

6 (d) Beginning with the 2013-2014 academic year, a student who meets the  
7 Kentucky core academic standards for high school graduation established in  
8 administrative regulation and graduates after completing three (3) years of  
9 high school shall receive a Kentucky educational excellence scholarship  
10 award equivalent to completing high school in four (4) years. The award shall  
11 be determined by dividing the total actual KEES scholarship earned under  
12 subsection (1) of this section by three (3) and multiplying that number by four  
13 (4). The resulting number shall be the annual award the student is eligible for  
14 under subsection (1) of this section.

15 (3) (a) The authority shall commit to provide to each eligible high school student  
16 graduating from high school before June 30, 1999, and achieving a score of at  
17 least 15 on the American College Test, a supplemental award for the award  
18 period beginning in the fall of 1999, based on the eligible high school  
19 student's highest ACT score attained by the date of graduation from high  
20 school. The amount of the supplemental award shall be determined as follows:

21	ACT	Annual	ACT	Annual
22	Score	Bonus	Score	Bonus
23	15	\$21	22	\$171
24	16	\$43	23	\$193
25	17	\$64	24	\$214
26	18	\$86	25	\$236
27	19	\$107	26	\$257

1	20	\$129	27	\$279
2	21	\$150	28 or above	\$300

3 Subsequent supplemental awards for eligible high school students graduating  
 4 before June 30, 1999, shall be determined in accordance with the provisions  
 5 of paragraph (b) of this subsection.

6 (b) The authority shall commit to provide to each eligible high school student  
 7 upon achievement after June 30, 1999, of an ACT score of at least 15 on the  
 8 American College Test a supplemental award based on the eligible high  
 9 school student's highest ACT score attained by the date of graduation from  
 10 high school. The amount of the supplemental award shall be determined as  
 11 follows:

12	ACT		ACT	
13	Score	Amount	Score	Amount
14	15	\$36	22	\$286
15	16	\$71	23	\$321
16	17	\$107	24	\$357
17	18	\$143	25	\$393
18	19	\$179	26	\$428
19	20	\$214	27	\$464
20	21	\$250	28 and above	\$500

21 The authority shall review the base amount of the supplemental award  
 22 beginning with the 2001-2002 academic year and each academic year  
 23 thereafter and may promulgate an administrative regulation to make  
 24 adjustments after considering the availability of funds.

25 (c) Beginning with the 2008-2009 academic year, the authority shall commit to  
 26 provide a supplemental award for achievement on examinations for Advanced  
 27 Placement or International Baccalaureate as defined in KRS 164.002 to an

1 eligible high school student whose family was eligible for free or reduced-  
2 price lunch for any year during high school enrollment.

3 1. The supplemental award for AP examination scores are as follows:

- 4 a. Two hundred dollars (\$200) for each score of three (3);
- 5 b. Two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for each score of four (4); and
- 6 c. Three hundred dollars (\$300) for each score of five (5).

7 2. The supplemental award for IB examination scores are as follows:

- 8 a. Two hundred dollars (\$200) for each score of five (5);
- 9 b. Two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for each score of six (6); and
- 10 c. Three hundred dollars (\$300) for each score of seven (7).

11 (d) Beginning with the 2013-2014 academic year, the authority shall commit to  
12 provide a supplemental award for achievement on examinations for  
13 Cambridge Advanced International as defined in KRS 164.002 to an eligible  
14 high school student whose family was eligible for free or reduced-priced  
15 lunch for any year during high school enrollment. The supplemental award for  
16 Cambridge Advanced International examination scores are as follows:

- 17 1. Two hundred dollars (\$200) for each score of "e";
- 18 2. Two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for each score of "c" or "d"; and
- 19 3. Three hundred dollars (\$300) for each score of "a\*", "a", or "b".

20 (e) The authority shall promulgate administrative regulations establishing the  
21 eligibility criteria and procedures for making a supplemental award to  
22 Kentucky residents who are citizens, nationals, or permanent residents of the  
23 United States and who graduate from a nonpublic secondary school not  
24 certified by the Kentucky Board of Education and Kentucky residents who are  
25 citizens, nationals, or permanent residents of the United States and who obtain  
26 a High School Equivalency Diploma within five (5) years of their high school  
27 graduating class, and students under subsection (2)(c) of this section who do



1 not attend an accredited high school.